

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. SULLIVAN

FROM : MR. BRANIGAN

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY - RUSSIA

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- DATE: 12-12-63
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Mr. Papich
- 1 - Mr. Stokes

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
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Classified by 240
Exempt from GDS, Category 2 & 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite 7/17/11

This details the facts concerning the Mexican aspects of this case, including Oswald's trip to Mexico City in late September and the allegation of Gilberto Alvarado Ugarte that he saw Oswald receive \$6,500 in the Cuban Consulate, Mexico City, 9-18-63. Ugarte has admitted that his allegation was a mistake.

OSWALD'S MEXICAN TRAVEL:

On 9-17-63 Oswald obtained a 15-day Mexican Tourist Card from the Mexican Consulate, New Orleans. The signature on the card and the handwriting on the application have been identified by the Laboratory as Oswald's writing. Oswald is believed to have left New Orleans on the morning of 9-25-63 en route to Laredo, Texas, by bus. Details of his travel from New Orleans to Laredo have not as yet been determined. On the afternoon of 9-26-63 he entered Mexico at Nuevo Laredo. Mexican Immigration officials there could furnish no information of value. However, records of the Flecha Roja (Red Arrow), a Mexican bus line, disclosed that Oswald was on Red Arrow bus 516 which departed Nuevo Laredo 2 p.m., 9-26 en route Mexico City. We are presently endeavoring to locate the driver and 18 passengers who were on this bus. On 9-27 he checked into the Del Comercio Hotel, Mexico City, where he was identified by a hotel employee. He checked out of the hotel 10-1-63. However, as he paid for the night of 10-1, it is believed he actually left the hotel on the morning of 10-2. On 9-28-63 Oswald appeared in person at the Cuban Consulate where he spoke with a Silvia Duran, Mexican national of communist leanings employed by the Cuban Consulate. He was seeking a visa to enter Cuba en route to the USSR.

It was learned that a male who said he was Lee Oswald contacted the Soviet Embassy, Mexico City, on 10-1-63, stating he had previously been in touch with the Soviets concerning a request for a visa. He inquired again as to the status of his application.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. SULLIVAN
RE: LEE HARVEY OSWALD

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Her name and the Cuban Consulate number were found in Oswald's address book after his arrest. On 10-2-63 Oswald traveled from Mexico City to Nuevo Laredo on the Transportes Frontera, a Mexican bus line. He arrived at Nuevo Laredo at 6 a.m., 10-3-63, where he was checked by a Mexican Immigration inspector who works the midnight to 8 a.m. shift. His method of travel from Nuevo Laredo to Dallas has not to date been established. Oswald's wife, who left New Orleans with Mrs. Paine shortly prior to Oswald's departure from New Orleans 9-25-63 has steadfastly denied any knowledge of Oswald's intention to go to Mexico City. (S)(C)

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ALLEGATION OF GILBERTO ALVARADO UGARTE: *Nicaragua Mex*

Ugarde, a 23-year-old Nicaraguan, on 11-25-63 reported that on 9-18-63 he was present in the Cuban Consulate, Mexico City, where he observed Oswald receive \$6,500 as part payment to perform an assassination. He claimed to have repeatedly called the American Embassy between 9-18 and 11-22-63 to warn of the killing of an important American. This claim is not substantiated by embassy records. He also claimed that he was in Mexico in September as an undercover agent. (u)

Ugarde, through repeated interviews, persisted in his story and after being turned over to the Mexican authorities he, on 11-30-63, admitted in writing that his allegation was false; that he had never seen Oswald in the Cuban Consulate and never saw any money paid to anyone in that establishment. He told the Mexicans his motive in the fabrication was to induce the U.S. to take some action against Castro. When released by the Mexicans, Ugarde recanted his confession and claimed that he admitted the hoax only because of his fear of bodily harm. Thereafter he was reinterrogated in Mexico by CIA and was afforded the polygraph examination in the presence of the Legal Attache, Mexico City. During reinterview on 12-6-63 he displayed evidences of deception when questioned concerning Oswald. He admitted that he must have been mistaken in stating that he observed Oswald in the Cuban Consulate. The final report of the interview of Ugarde on 12-6-63 and the opinion of the polygraph operator have not been received to date. Alvarado was deported to Nicaragua on 12-9-63. Our investigation of Oswald has definitely established that he was in New Orleans from 9-17 through 9-25-63 and could not have been at the Cuban Consulate on 9-18-63 as alleged by Alvarado. (u) (C)

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ACTION:

For information. We are endeavoring through CIA to obtain the detailed results of the polygraph interview, including the polygraph operator's opinion and when these are received, you will be advised. (AM)

Press for this.

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- 1/13/63

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Sullivan
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Suggest Mr. McLoach
advise Congressman Ford
of facts in view of
McConer statement to Ford

yes
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